

REMARKS

Applicant thanks Examiners Kyle and Knight for extending the courtesies of an Examiner Interview to Applicant's representatives on December 11, 2003.

Claims 1-29 are currently pending in this application. By the foregoing Amendment, claims 1, 15, and 29 are amended and new claims 30 and 31 are added. In view of this amendment and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the rejected claims are respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and §103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 8-10, 12-16, 18, 20, 22-24, and 26-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Markus (U.S. Patent No. 6,499,042, "Markus '042"). Claims 3 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Markus '042 in view of Markus et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,490,601, "Markus '601"). Claims 5, 11, 19, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Markus '042 in view of Wong (U.S. Patent No. 5,956,699). Claims 7 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Markus '042 in view of Rhoads (U.S. Patent No. 6,285,776).

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections because neither Markus '042 nor any of the other cited references disclose each and every element of the originally filed claims. However, solely in an effort to expedite prosecution of this matter, Applicant has amended claims 1, 15, and 29 to further clarify certain features of the invention.

In particular, Markus '042 does not disclose at least the feature of an intermediary disposed between the client and the server for retrieving a requested electronic document, as recited in claims 1, 15, and 29. Markus '042 specifically describes an operation wherein an external entity (the client) sends a request for a document from its browser *directly* to a server (Markus '042, column 3, lines 23-26). For at least this reason, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 15, and 29 are patentable over Markus '042.

Dependent claims 2-14 and 16-28 each depend from and add additional features to one of independent claims 1, 15, and 29. Markus '042 is deficient in teaching or suggesting each of the features of the independent claims for at least the foregoing reasons. None of the references relied upon by the Examiner, either alone or in combination with one another, compensate for the deficiencies of Markus '042 set forth above. For at least this reason, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 2-14 and 16-28 are patentable over the references relied upon by the Examiner.

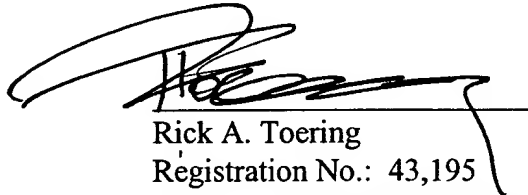
New claims 30 and 31 depend from and add additional features to claims 1 and 15, respectively. For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 30 and 31 are patentable over the references relied upon by the Examiner.

Having addressed the foregoing rejections, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

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Respectfully submitted,



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